



U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom Hearing **Strategies for Religious Freedom in Fragile States**

Panel



Dr. Elie Al Hindy is the Executive Director at Adyan Foundation, a Lebanon-based foundation for diversity, solidarity, and human dignity. He is also an Associate Professor at Notre Dame University-Louaize (NDU) in Lebanon, in the Faculty of Law and Political Science. Dr. Al Hindy previously spent six years as the Director of the Middle East Institute for Research and Strategic Studies (MEIRSS). Prior to this, he was the President of ALEF Act for Human Rights for five years, an organization which he co-founded in 1999. He has also been a board member of ALEF since 2009. In addition, Dr. Al Hindy is the co-founder and board member, since 2018, of the International & Transitional Justice Resource Center (ITJRC). Dr. Al Hindy has Bachelor degrees in International Affairs and Diplomacy and in Political and Administrative Sciences from NDU and the Lebanese University (2nd Branch) respectively. He earned a Master's degree in International Affairs and Diplomacy from NDU, and holds a Ph.D. in Government and International Relations from the University of Sydney, Australia.



Corinne Graff is a senior advisor at the U.S. Institute of Peace (USIP), where her work focuses on long-term strategies and policies to prevent the outbreak or escalation of conflict in fragile states. From 2018-2019, she was a senior policy advisor to and staffer to the Task Force on Violent Extremism in Fragile States. She is also a lecturer at the George Washington Elliott School of International Affairs, where she teaches a graduate course on early warning and conflict prevention. Prior to joining USIP, she served as a deputy assistant administrator for Africa at the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). In this capacity, she oversaw Sudan and South Sudan programs and Africa Bureau efforts on countering violent extremism and security governance. Prior to joining USAID, she was director for development and democracy at the National Security Council, where she coordinated U.S. global development policy priorities, and established an interagency policy committee to anticipate and respond earlier to crises and violent extremism. From 2010-2013, she was a senior advisor to the U.S.

Permanent Representative to the United Nations (USUN), where her portfolio included sub-Saharan Africa and global development policy. Before joining government, Dr. Graff was a fellow at the Brookings Institution, where she co-directed a project leading to a report on education and extremism, and helped develop the Brookings Index of State Weakness in the Developing World. In 2002, she was a visiting research associate at the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies. Dr. Graff received her doctoral degree in international relations from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (Switzerland), and her bachelor's from Smith College.



James Patton is the CEO and President of the International Center for Religions and Diplomacy (ICRD). Prior to joining ICRD as Executive Vice President in 2011, his non-governmental experience included assessing the impact of drug policies and military responses in Bolivia, facilitating the role of Cambodian Buddhists in post-conflict stability, and coordinating citizen security and conflict transformation efforts in the Andean region. His governmental experience included working with the Special Envoy for Sudan, leading stability operations assessments for the U.S. State Department in South Sudan, and enhancing the Latin America and Religion and Conflict portfolios for USAID's Office of Conflict Management and Mitigation. In his role as ICRD's President, James has served as a member of a number of collaborative efforts to advance the field of peacemaking, including: the U.S. Department of State's Working Group on

Religion and Foreign Policy; the Council on Foreign Relations' Religion and Foreign Policy Working Group, and; the public-private partnership advancing national dialogue on reconciliation in Colombia, *Reconcilación Colombia*. He is a Senior Visiting Fellow at Brigham Young University's Wheatley Institution and the co-author, with Rev. David Steele, of the forthcoming (2018) U.S. Institute of Peace publication, *Religion and Conflict Guides: Religion and Reconciliation*.



Ebrahim Moosa, Ph.D. is Mirza Family Professor of Islamic Thought and Muslim Societies in Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Affairs and Department of History. Moosa co-directs Contending Modernities, the global research and education initiative examining the interaction among Catholic, Muslim, and other religious and secular forces in the world. Moosa came to Notre Dame in the fall of 2014 from Duke University, where he taught in the Department of Religious Studies for 13 years. He previously taught in the Department of Religious Studies at the University of Cape Town and in the Department of Religious

Studies at Stanford University. In 2005, Moosa was named a Carnegie Scholar to pursue research on Islamic seminaries of South Asia. Moosa's interests span both classical and modern Islamic thought with a special focus on Islamic law, history, ethics, and theology. His book *What Is a Madrasa?* was published in 2015 by the University of North Carolina Press. Moosa also is the author of *Ghazali and the Poetics of Imagination*, winner of the American Academy of Religion's Best First Book in the History of Religions (2006) and editor of the last manuscript of the late Professor Fazlur Rahman, *Revival and Reform in Islam: A Study of Islamic Fundamentalism*. Born in South Africa, Moosa earned his M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Cape Town. He also holds a degree in Islamic and Arabic studies from Darul Ulum Nadwatul `Ulama in Lucknow, India, a B.A. degree from Kanpur University, and a postgraduate diploma

in journalism from the City University in London. Other publications also include the co-edited book *The African Renaissance and the Afro-Arab Spring* (Georgetown University Press, 2015); *Islam in the Modern World* (Routledge, 2014), and *Muslim Family Law in Sub-Saharan Africa: Colonial Legacies and Post-Colonial Challenges*, (Amsterdam University Press, Spring, 2010).